

Amendment of the Drawings

Please amend Figure 5 as indicated on the attached replacement drawing sheet.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction of the Office Action mailed February 13, 2006, Applicant traverses this restriction requirement. Applicant hereby provisionally elects the species shown in figure 6 and paragraphs 31-33.

Drawings

Figure 5 has been amended to illustrate the decreasing coercivity (H_c) of magnetic film with increasing temperature as discussed in Applicants' specification at Page 7, line 19 to page 8, line 2. Enclosed herewith is a replacement drawing sheet including Figure 5 indicating the changes to be made.

Claims

Claims 1-4, 7-10 and 13 are pending in this application. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 6, 11-12, and 14-29 have been withdrawn. Claims 9-10 have been amended. Claims 1-4, 7-8 and 13 remain unamended.

Generic Claims 1-4, 7-10 and 13 Read on Both Embodiments in Figures 6&7

Restriction is not required for the embodiments shown in figures 6 and 7 as they are both covered by generic claims 1-4, 7-10 and 13. Figures 6&7 illustrate different layout configurations of how magnetic memory elements can be configured in a magnetic random access memory (MRAM) device, but both include the elements of the generic claims 1-4, 7-10 and 13.

For example, Figure 6 shows "a plurality of magnetic memory elements" as represented by the illustrative magnetic memory element 610, and Figure 7 shows "a plurality of magnetic memory elements" as represented by the elements within the groups 740, 750, 760 and 770.

For "a sense line coupled to the plurality of magnetic memory elements for sensing a magnetic orientation of at least one of the plurality of magnetic memory elements" see the sense line 620 in Figure 6 and the sense line 780 in Figure 7.

For "wherein the sense line includes a first via and a second via;" see the vias 630 and 640 in Figure 6 and in Figure 7, see the vias 710, 720 and 730.

Both the embodiments of Figure 6 and 7 utilize the sense line "to thermally

assist in switching a magnetic orientation limited to the group of magnetic memory elements.”

The dependent claims 2-4, 7-10 and 13 claim additional features which can be present in either of the embodiments of an MRAM device illustrated in Figure 6 or figure 7.

Conclusion

It is respectfully requested that the embodiments in Figures 6&7 be examined together and are not treated as different species. Examination of generic claims 1-4, 7-10 and 13 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted on Behalf of Applicants
Janice H. Nickel et al.

Eileen Lehmann

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Eileen Lehmann
Registration No. 39,272
Hewlett-Packard Company
Mail Stop 1197
1501 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, CA 94304
650-857-7940 (telephone)
650-852-8063 (fax)